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CAMBODIA: Since becoming Prime Minister, In Tam's enthusiasm for his office has steadily declined, largely because of Lon Nol's unwillingness to share his power with him and other members of the High Political Council.

In Tam claims he is being isolated from daily governmental business by a combination of arbitrary decisions on the President's part and the hostility of senior Cambodian Army officers. Some of the latter appear to be supporting Lon Nol's efforts to keep In Tam in check in order to block military reforms—including the replacement of incompetent and corrupt commanders. In Tam is also concerned that several unpopular economic decisions that must be made soon may damage his political career.

Despite this bleak situation, however, In Tam reportedly intends to stay on as Prime Minister and do the best he can to cope with the country's problems. If he could obtain the political support of fellow council member Sirik Matak, he might be able to make some inroads on Lon Nol's authority, but it does not appear that Matak can be counted upon.

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Whatever the case, the prospects for effective government in Phnom Penh remain poor.

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PANAMA: Troubled by the hiatus in the canal negotiations, Panamanian authorities are continuing their efforts to demonstrate good will by keeping down the level of anti-US propaganda.

During his meeting with Secretary Rogers in Buenos Aires late last month, Foreign Minister Tack stressed this new climate of restraint and stated that the Torrijos government expects it to have a positive effect on the future of the negotiations. This week, Tack indicated to the US ambassador that Panamanian media would downplay press stories alleging that US officials in the past had considered assassinating Torrijos. The Panamanians have also hinted at some additional flexibility in their negotiating position on the issues of the duration of US jurisdiction in the Canal Zone and the transition of authority from the US to Panama.

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official visit to Austria on 2-5 July.

*These items are prepared by CIA without consultation with the Departments of State and Defense.

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